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Docket: 14532.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

Tara Nicole Sherman

Appln. No.:

10/723,718

Filing Date:

November 25, 2003

PROSTHETIC SPINAL DISC NUCLEUS

Title:

PROSTHETIC SPINAL DISC NUCLEUS WITH ELEVATED SWELLING RATE

Examiner:

Thomas C.

Barrett

Group Art Unit:

3738

PAPER SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Express Mailing Number: <u>EV 808020538 US</u> Date of Deposit: <u>October 2, 2006</u>

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

(Name) Kim Anderson

(Signature

Sir:

In response to the Communication mailed from the US Patent Office, dated September 20, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows. The response is timely filed within one (1) month of the Communication. Therefore, no fees are considered due at this time.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.